

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: A. Elamin
KOJI FUKUNAGA et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2116
Application No.: 09/025,133)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 9220
Filed: February 17, 1998)	
	:	
For: DATA TRANSMISSION)	
APPARATUS, SYSTEM AND	:	
METHOD, AND IMAGE)	
PROCESSING APPARATUS	:	November 29, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed November 20, 2006, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449. Only a copy of WO 96/34477, together with its English-language abstract, is attached, pursuant to 1276 O.G. 55 (August 5, 2003).

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,828,656
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,128,316
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,266,346
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,567,421
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 6,577,646
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 6,587,477
- (7) U.S. Patent No. 6,922,416
- (8) U.S. Published Appln. No. 2005/0163156
- (9) WO 96/34477

Documents 1 through 8 are believed to be English-language counterparts of JP 8-340338, which was cited in the November 20, 2006 IDS. Document 9 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of JP 9-027814, which was also cited in the November 20, 2006 IDS.

JP 8-340338 and JP 9-027814 were cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, which is dated September 8, 2006, was enclosed in the November 20, 2006 IDS.

In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing and returning a copy of the attached Form PTO-1449.

In this regard, also attached is a copy of the Form PTO-1449 which accompanied a Supplemental IDS filed September 26, 2006, by which was submitted the English translation of the Messmer article (previously cited in an IDS dated August 29, 2006). While the Examiner inserted "AE" in the "EXAMINER INITIAL" column pertinent to U.S. Patent No. 5,467,295, the "EXAMINER INITIAL" column is empty with regard to the Messmer article. It is requested that the Examiner place his initials opposite the Messmer article and return the attached Form PTO-1449 from the September 26, 2006 Supplemental IDS.

Expedited treatment of this IDS is again respectfully requested, as the issue fee in this case is due February 14, 2007.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Frank Cire #42,419/
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